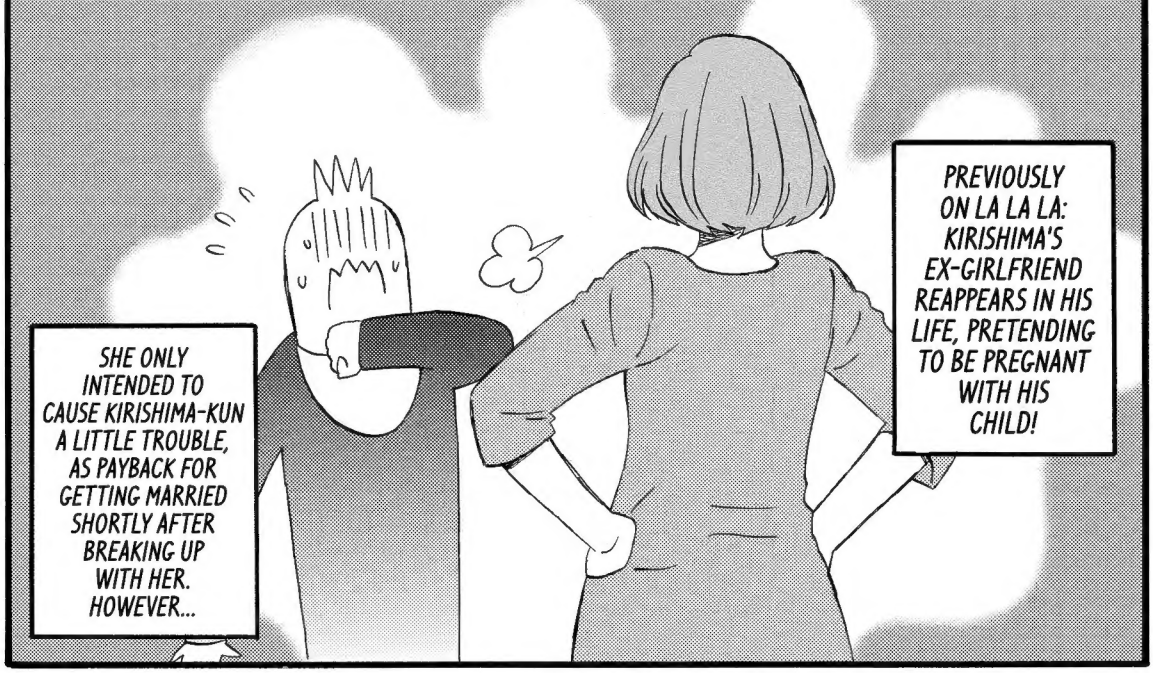
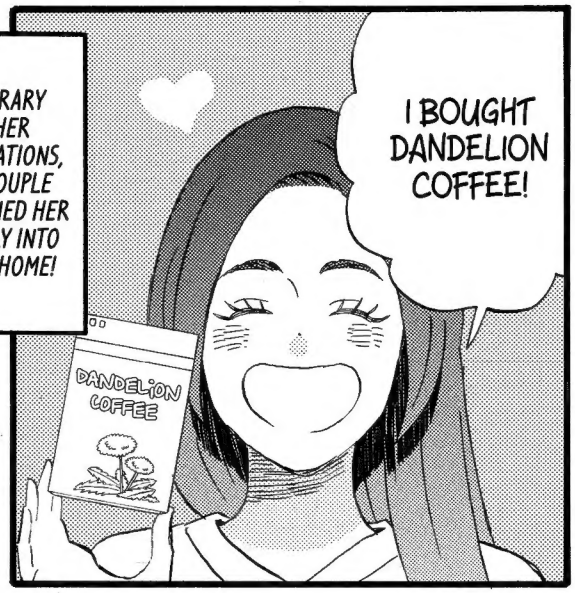
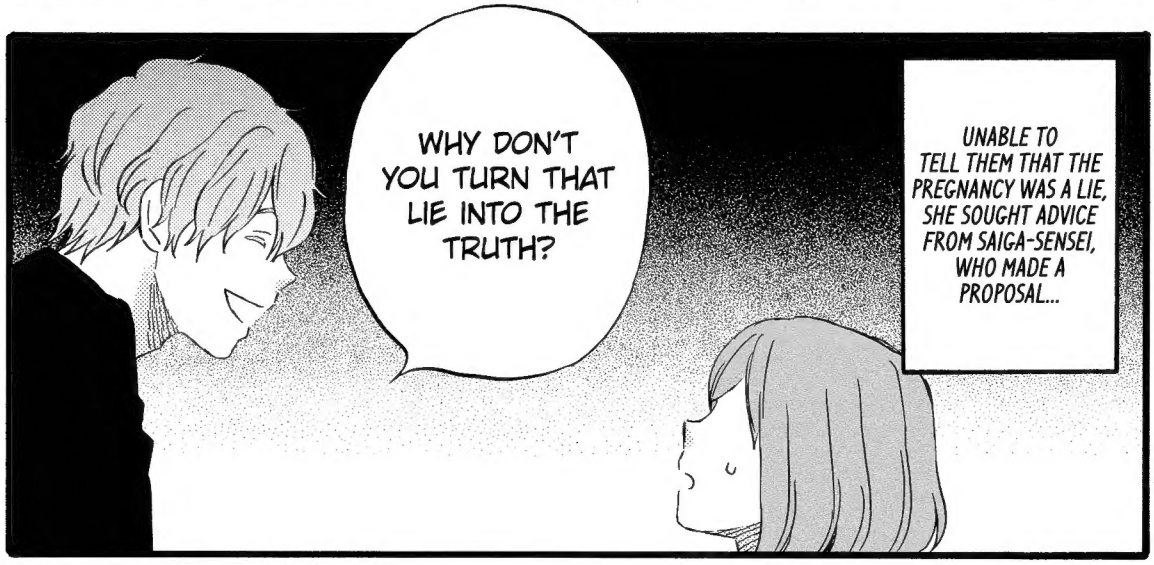
Chapter 31: The Ex-Girlfriend's Choice


PREVIOUSLY ON LA LA LA: KIRISHIMA'S EX-GIRLFRIEND REAPPEARS IN HIS LIFE, PRETENDING TO BE PREGNANT WITH HIS CHILD!
SHE ONLY INTENDED TO CAUSE KIRISHIMA-KUN A LITTLE TROUBLE, AS PAYBACK FOR GETTING MARRIED SHORTLY AFTER BREAKING UP WITH HER. HOWEVER...

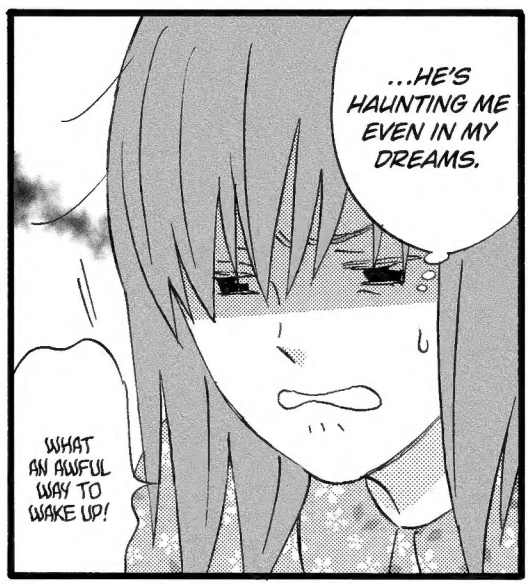
I'LL GET A PART-TIME JOB...!
CONTRARY TO HER EXPECTATIONS, THE COUPLE WELCOMED HER WARMLY INTO THEIR HOME!

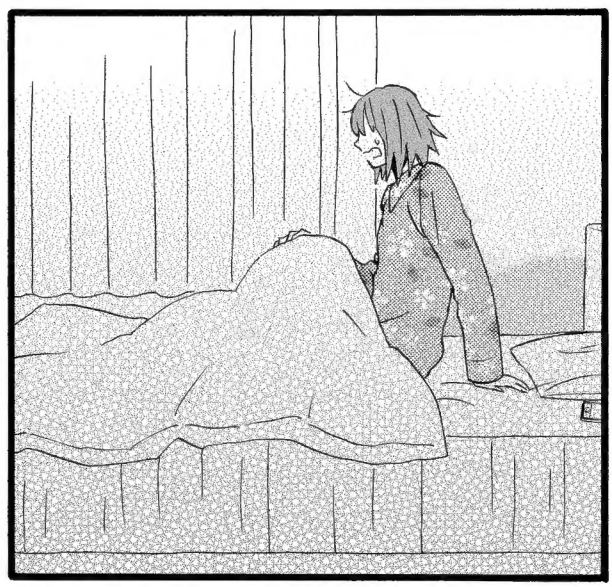

I BOUGHT DANDELION COFFEE!
DANDELION COFFEE

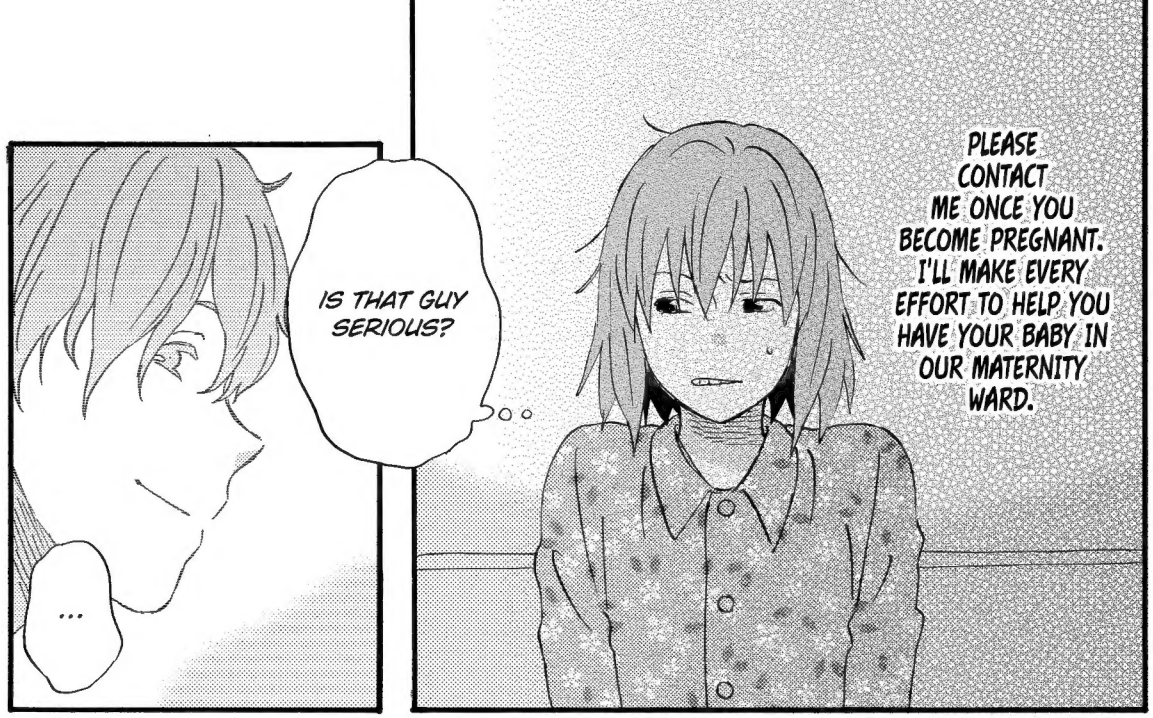

WHY DON'T YOU TURN THAT LIE INTO THE TRUTH?
UNABLE TO TELL THEM THAT THE PREGNANCY WAS A LIE, SHE SOUGHT ADVICE FROM SAIGA-SENSEI, WHO MADE A PROPOSAL...

IF YOU TELL THEM IT WAS A LIE AND APOLOGIZE...

YOU'LL LOOK LIKE A COMPLETE IDIOT, YOU KNOW?

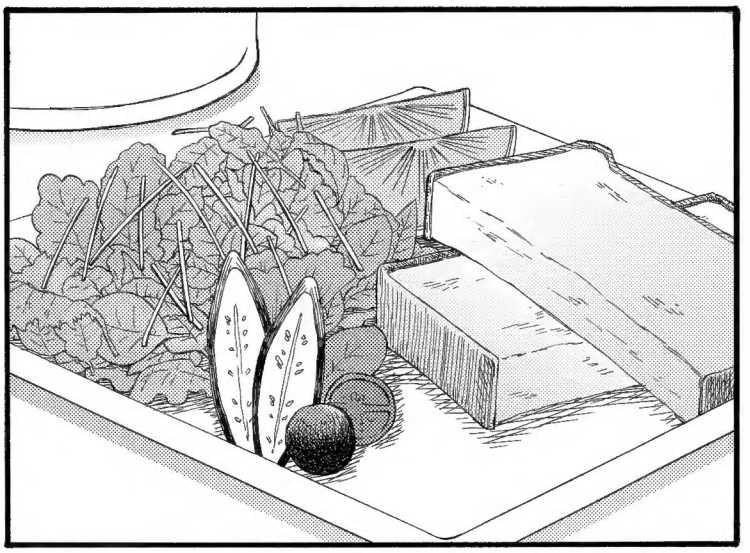

...HE'S HAUNTING ME EVEN IN MY DREAMS.
WHAT AN AWFUL WAY TO WAKE UP!



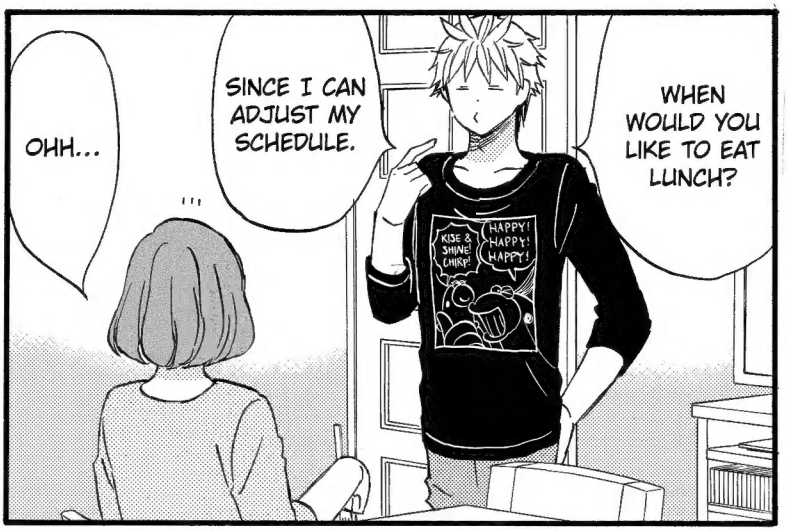

PLEASE CONTACT ME ONCE YOU BECOME PREGNANT. I'LL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HELP YOU HAVE YOUR BABY IN OUR MATERNITY WARD.
IS THAT GUY SERIOUS?
...

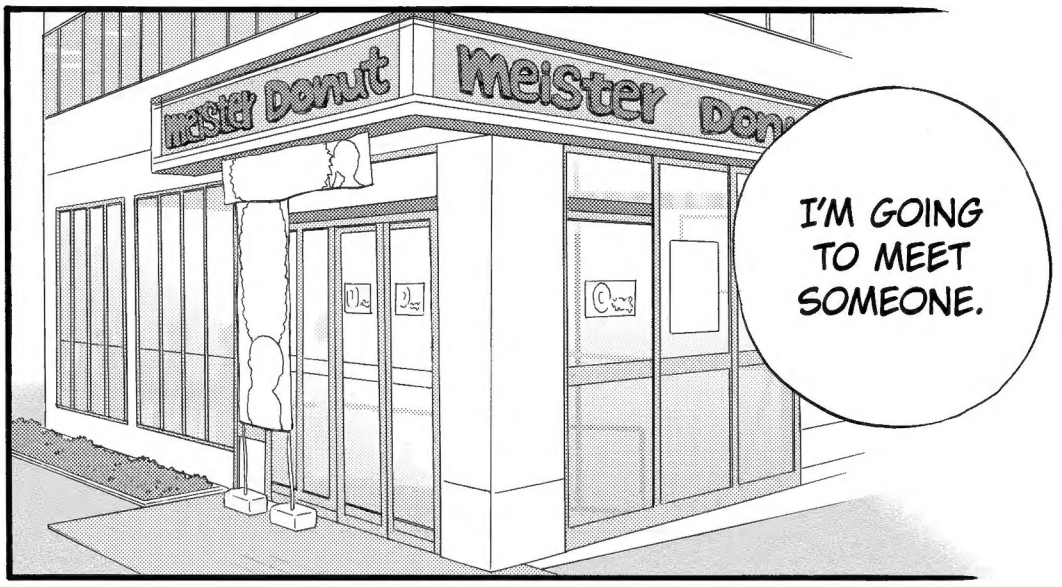
OH!
GOOD MORNING.
KISE & SHINE! CHIRP!
HAPPY! HAPPY! HAPPY!
Tock
Tock
I'LL GET BREAKFAST READY. WAIT JUST A MINUTE.

Munch
Munch

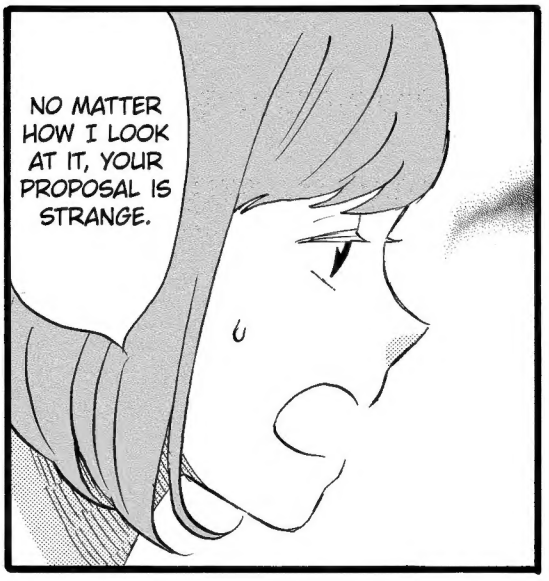


NO NEED TO MAKE ME LUNCH.
...
Lick


OHH...
SINCE I CAN ADJUST MY SCHEDULE.
...
WHEN WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT LUNCH?
RISE & SHINE! CHIRP!
HAPPY! HAPPY! HAPPY!

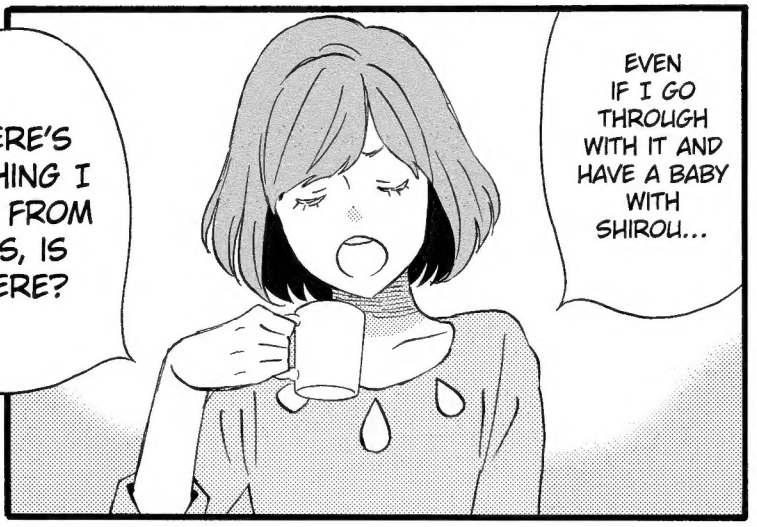

Master Donut
Meister Don
I'M GOING TO MEET SOMEONE.

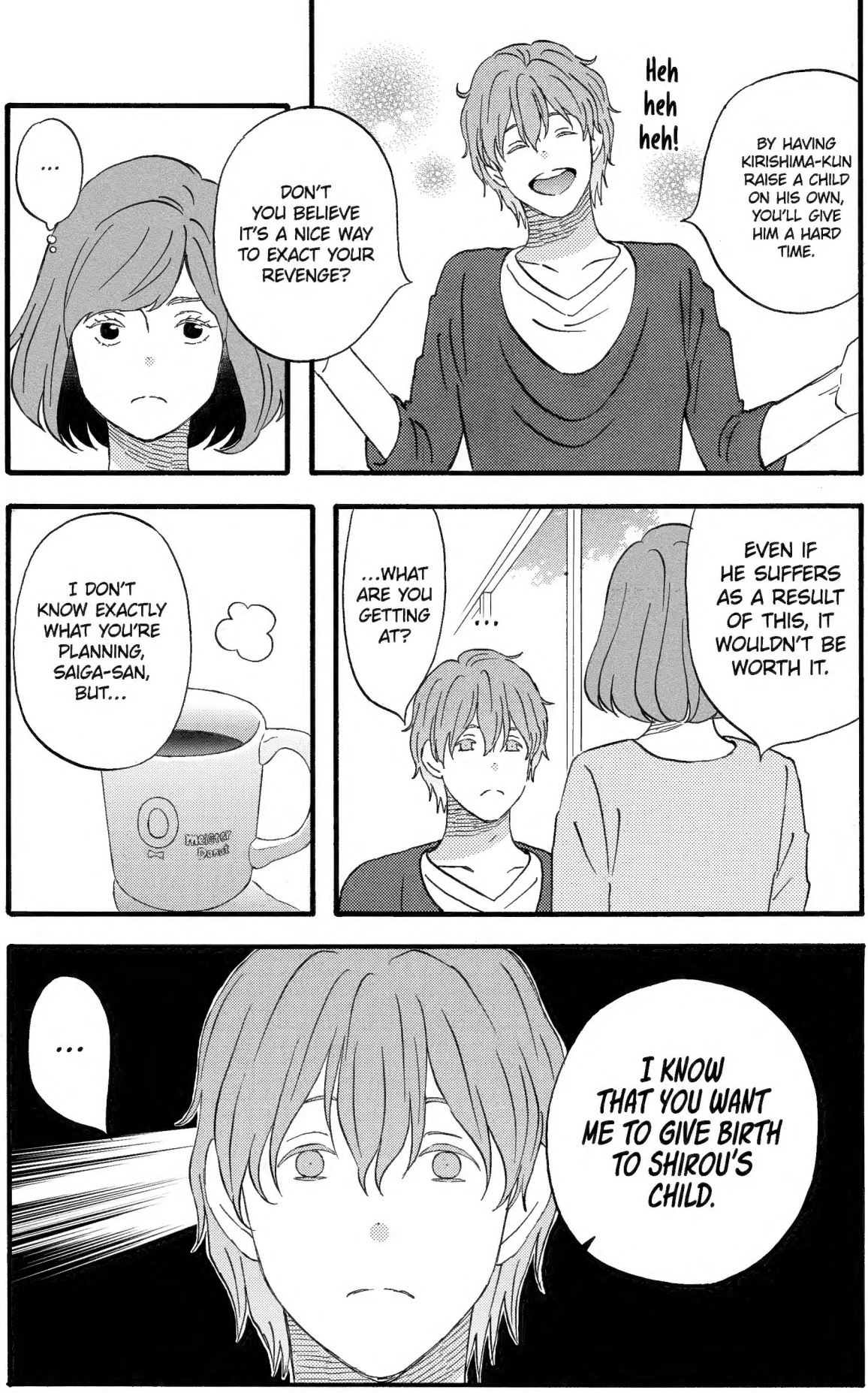
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL ME YOU'RE ALREADY PREGNANT, ARE YOU?
WELL, THIS IS SUDDEN...


NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, YOUR PROPOSAL IS STRANGE.

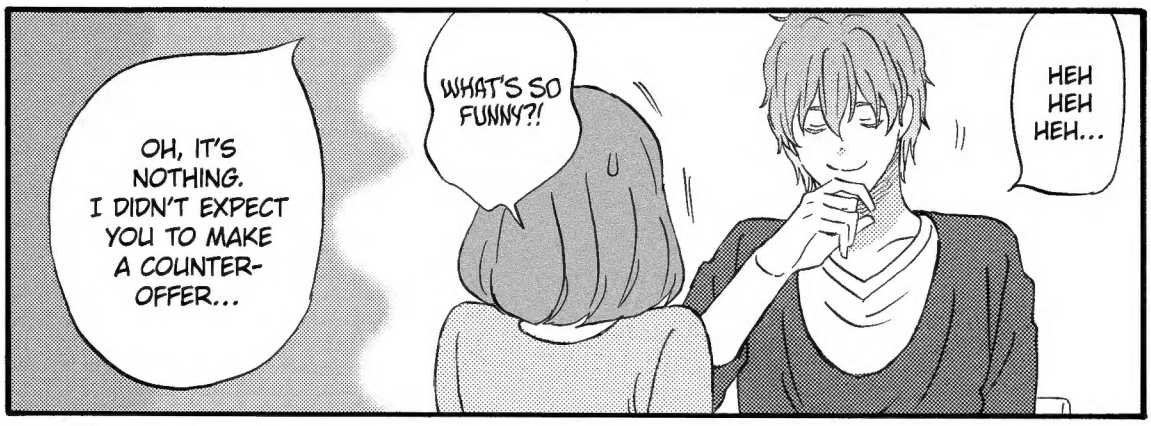
...
I'M FAIRLY SURE THAT I TOLD YOU TO PLEASE CONTACT ME ONLY WHEN THAT HAPPENS.

Oh?
YOU DON'T THINK SO?

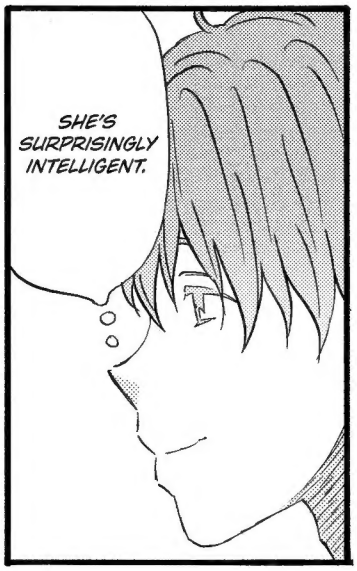

THERE'S NOTHING I GAIN FROM THIS, IS THERE?
EVEN IF I GO THROUGH WITH IT AND HAVE A BABY WITH SHIROU...

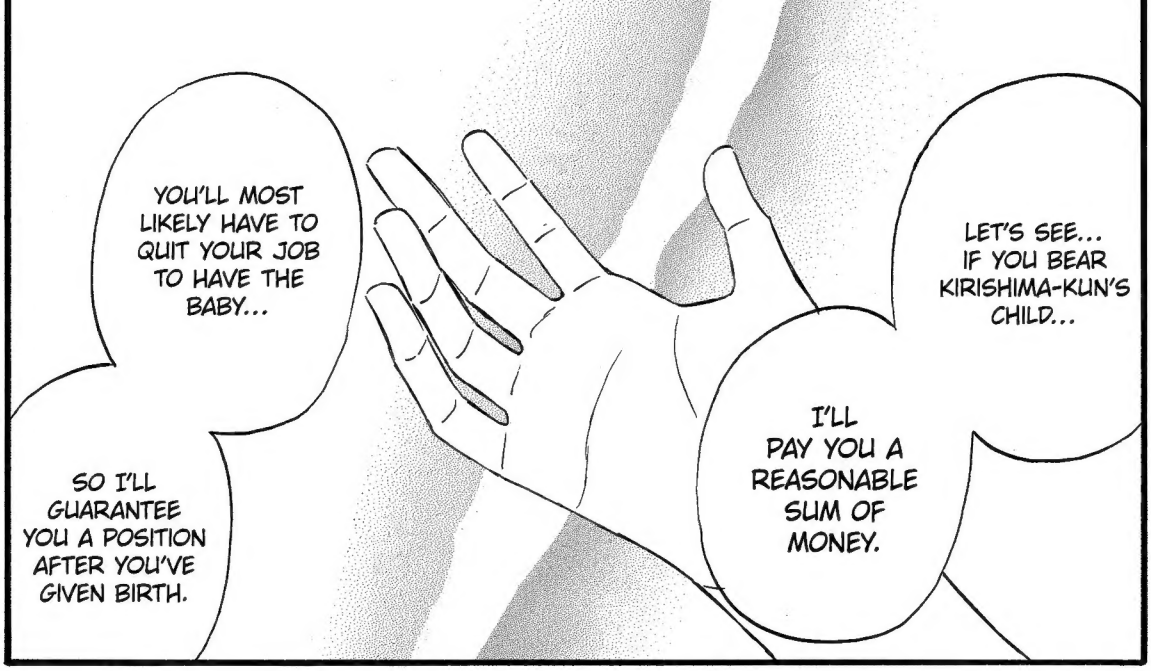

...
DON'T YOU BELIEVE IT'S A NICE WAY TO EXACT YOUR REVENGE?
Heh heh heh!
BY HAVING KIRISHIMA-KUN RAISE A CHILD ON HIS OWN, YOU'LL GIVE HIM A HARD TIME.
I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING, SAIGA-SAN, BUT...
...WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT?
...
EVEN IF HE SUFFERS AS A RESULT OF THIS, IT WOULDN'T BE WORTH IT.
...
I KNOW THAT YOU WANT ME TO GIVE BIRTH TO SHIROU'S CHILD.

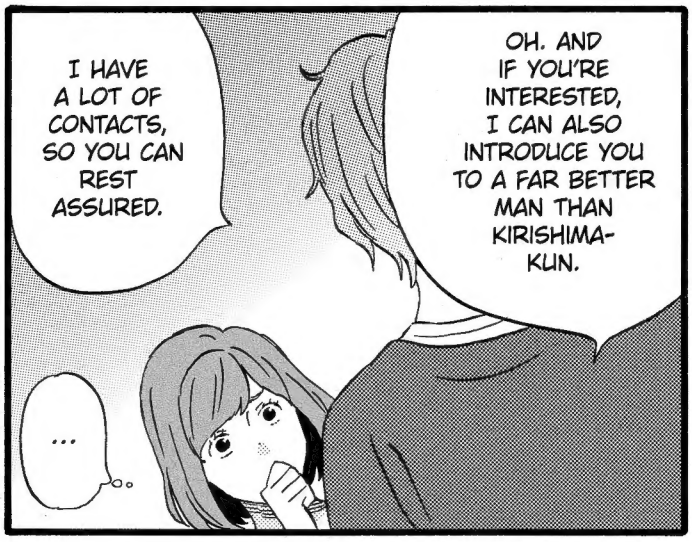
Hmph!
IN OTHER WORDS...
IF THERE'S A REASONABLE REWARD AT THE END OF THIS, I'LL THINK ABOUT IT!


HEH HEH HEH...
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
OH, IT'S NOTHING. I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO MAKE A COUNTER-OFFER...

I ALSO WANT TO CAUSE KIRISHIMA-KUN TROUBLE.
I HATE THAT MAN, YOU SEE...
On a personal level.

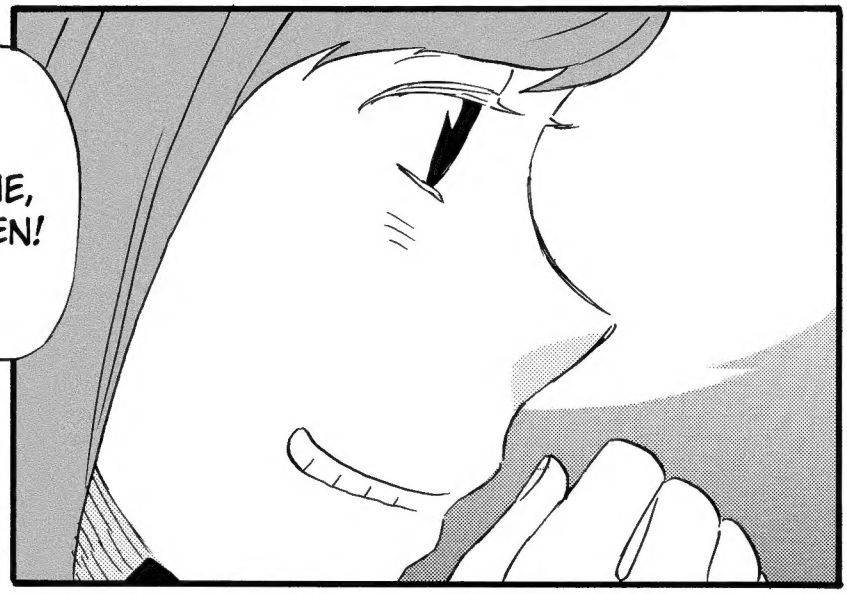

SHE'S SURPRISINGLY INTELLIGENT.


LET'S SEE... IF YOU BEAR KIRISHIMA-KUN'S CHILD...
I'LL PAY YOU A REASONABLE SUM OF MONEY.
YOU'LL MOST LIKELY HAVE TO QUIT YOUR JOB TO HAVE THE BABY...
SO I'LL GUARANTEE YOU A POSITION AFTER YOU'VE GIVEN BIRTH.

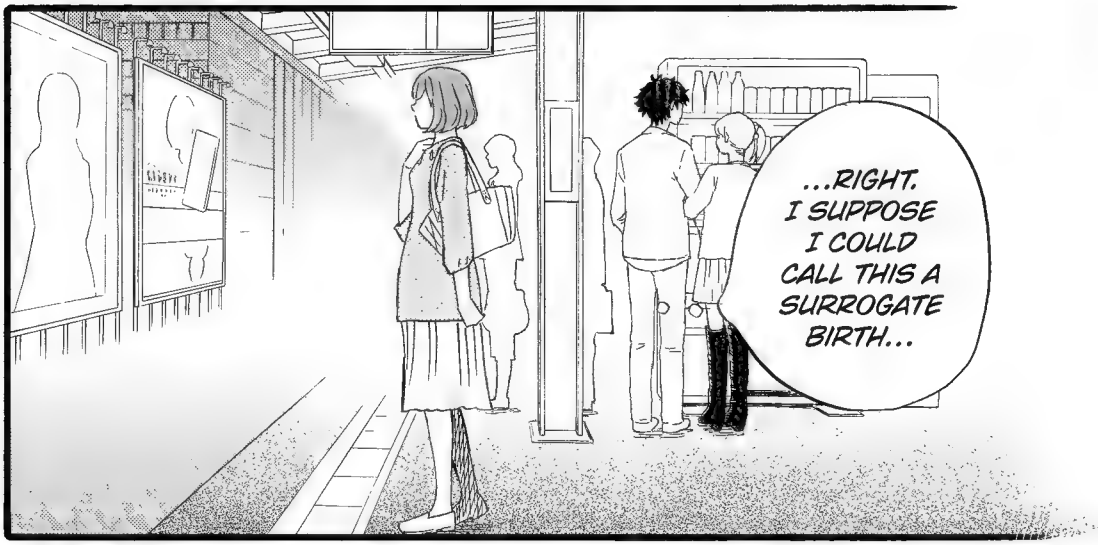

OH. AND IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, I CAN ALSO INTRODUCE YOU TO A FAR BETTER MAN THAN KIRISHIMA-KUN.
I HAVE A LOT OF CONTACTS, SO YOU CAN REST ASSURED.
...

NATURALLY, I'LL OFFER YOU A BETTER JOB THAN THE ONE YOU CURRENTLY HAVE.

Clatter

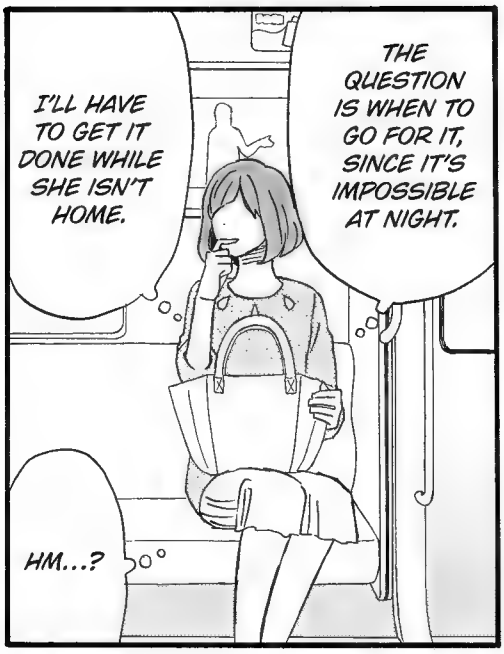

FINE, THEN!

I'LL THINK ABOUT YOUR PROPOSAL♡
I EAGERLY AWAIT YOUR RESPONSE.

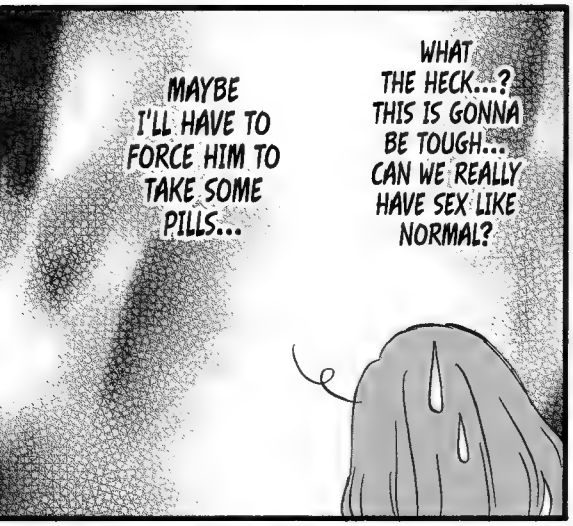

...RIGHT. I SUPPOSE I COULD CALL THIS A SURROGATE BIRTH...

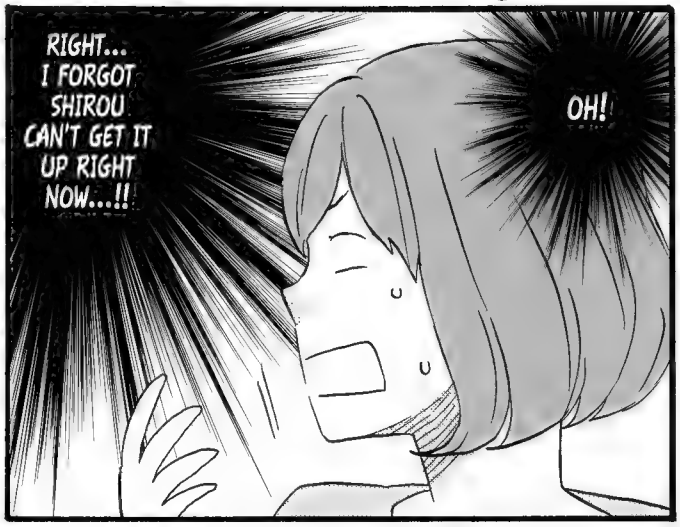
Grin

IN ADDITION, I'LL BE OFFERED A BETTER JOB AND INTRODUCED TO A GOOD MAN...
I'LL CAUSE SHIROU TROUBLE AND EVEN GET PAID FOR IT.

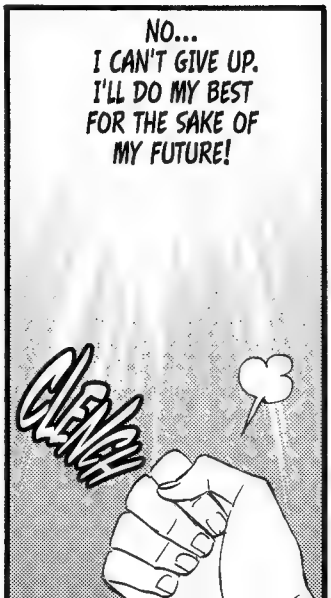

I'LL HAVE TO GET IT DONE WHILE SHE ISN'T HOME.
THE QUESTION IS WHEN TO GO FOR IT, SINCE IT'S IMPOSSIBLE AT NIGHT.
HM...?

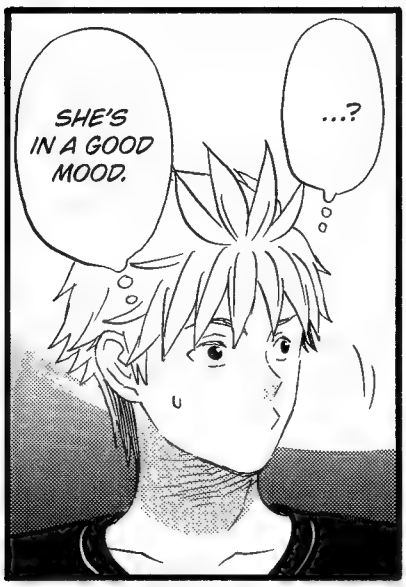
IN RETROSPECT, IT'S ACTUALLY A PRETTY SWEET DEAL!
Lots of money, a good man, and a stable job!
All riiiight!

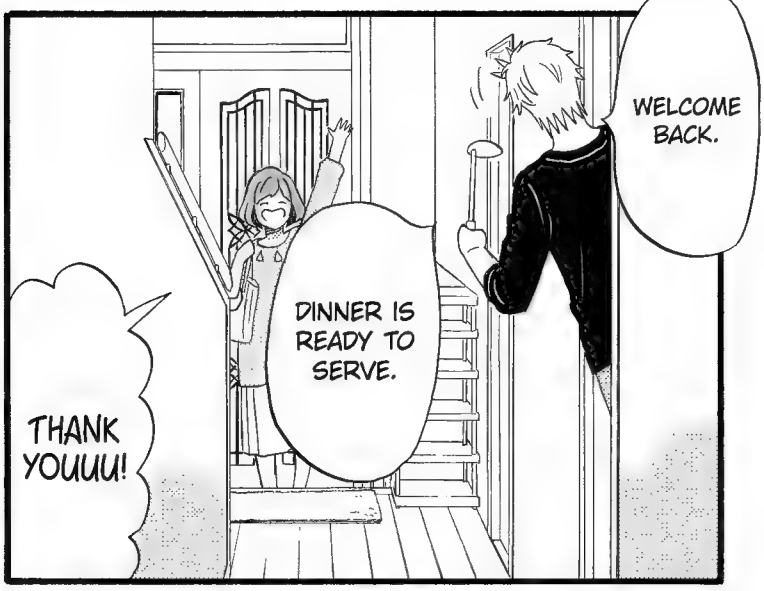

MAYBE I'LL HAVE TO FORCE HIM TO TAKE SOME PILLS...
WHAT THE HECK...? THIS IS GONNA BE TOUGH... CAN WE REALLY HAVE SEX LIKE NORMAL?

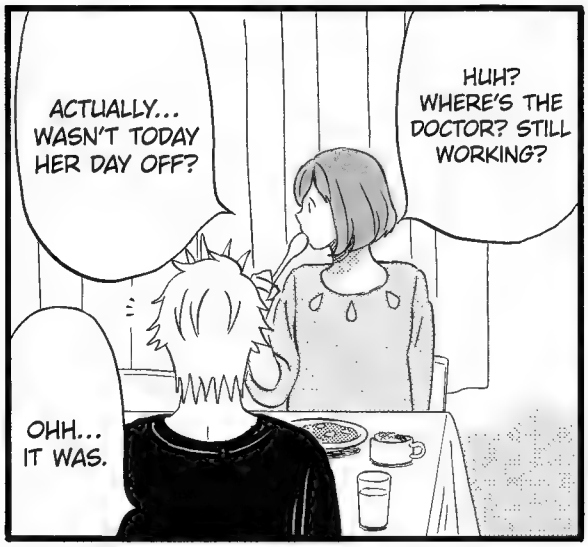

RIGHT... I FORGOT SHIROU CAN'T GET IT UP RIGHT NOW...!!
OH!

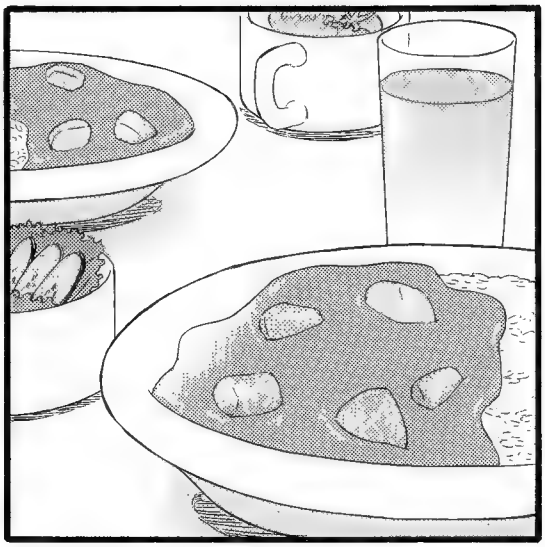
I'M HOOOME!
ALL RIIIIGHT!


NO... I CAN'T GIVE UP. I'LL DO MY BEST FOR THE SAKE OF MY FUTURE!
CLENCH


SHE'S IN A GOOD MOOD.
...?


WELCOME BACK.
DINNER IS READY TO SERVE.
THANK YOUUU!


ACTUALLY... WASN'T TODAY HER DAY OFF?
HUH? WHERE'S THE DOCTOR? STILL WORKING?
OHH... IT WAS.

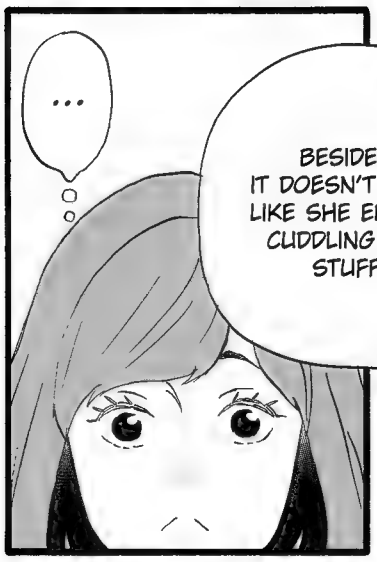


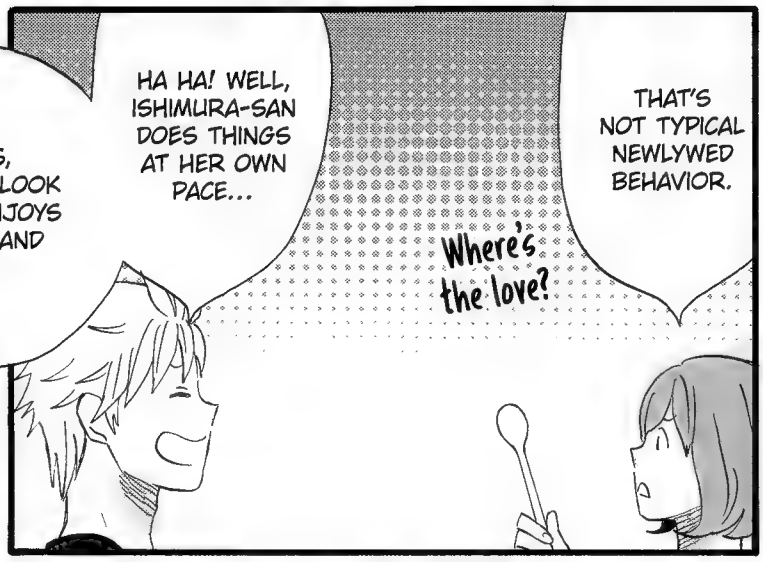
CLASS...?
SHE SAID SHE WAS GOING TO EAT DINNER WITH HER CLASSMATES AFTER THAT.

I think?
Pottery class...
SHE HAD A LESSON TODAY.
KISE & SHINE! CHIRP!
HAPPY! HAPPY! HAPPY!

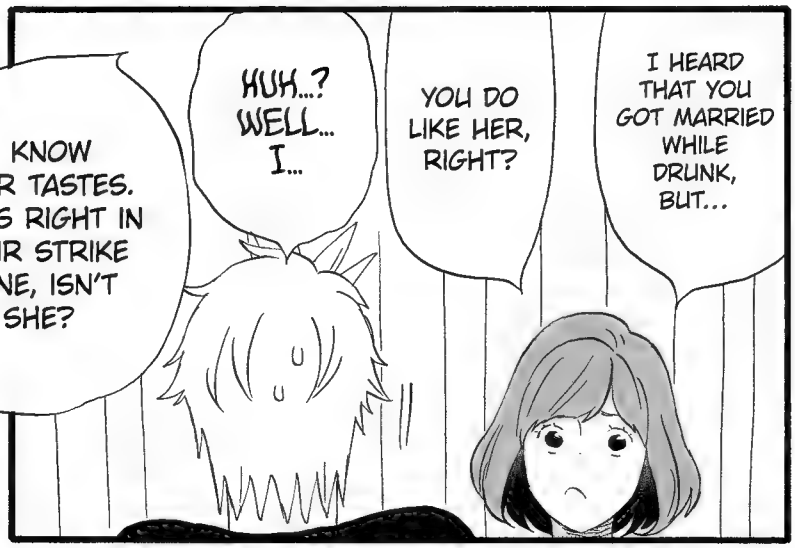
WE USUALLY JUST DO WHATEVER WE WANT ON OUR DAYS OFF.

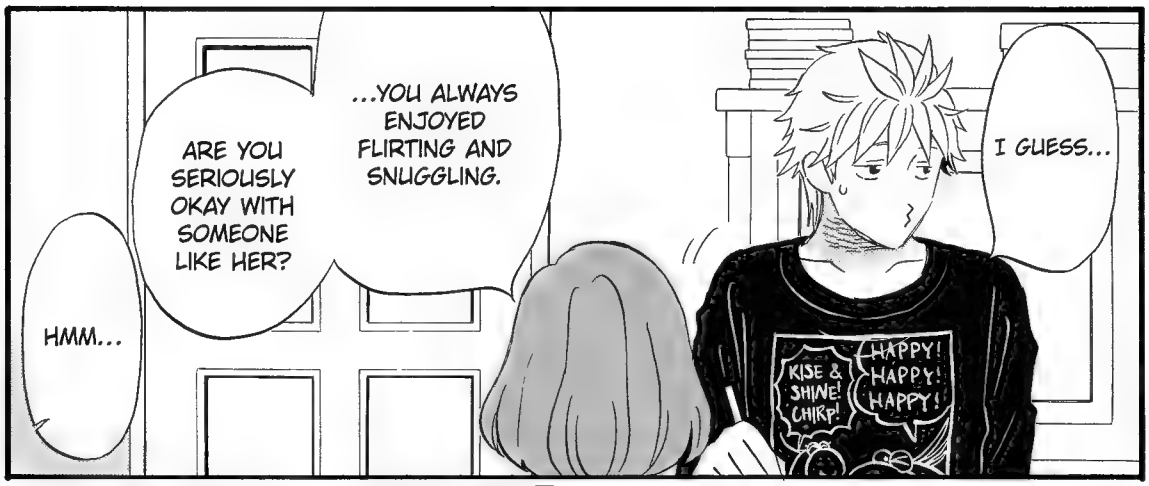
YOU DON'T SPEND YOUR DAYS OFF TOGETHER?
SOMETIMES WE DO, BUT...
Munch
Munch


...
BESIDES, IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE ENJOYS CUDDLING AND STUFF.


THAT'S NOT TYPICAL NEWLYWED BEHAVIOR.
HA HA! WELL, ISHIMURA-SAN DOES THINGS AT HER OWN PACE...
Where's the love?

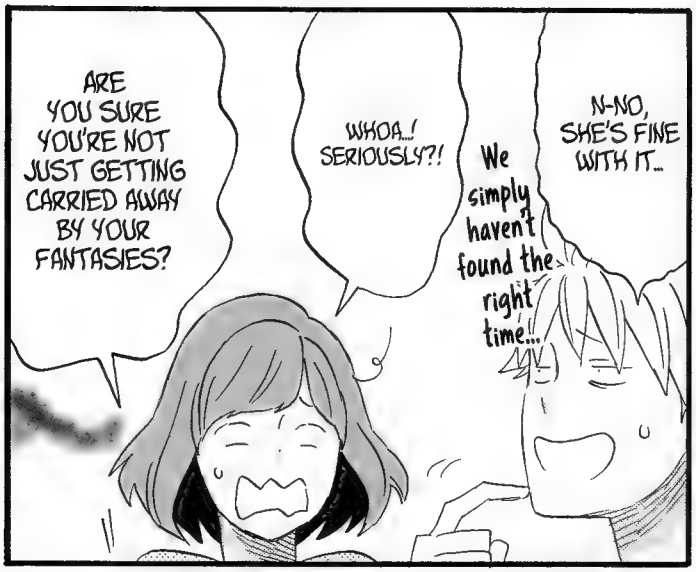
I KNOW YOUR TASTES. SHE'S RIGHT IN YOUR STRIKE ZONE, ISN'T SHE?

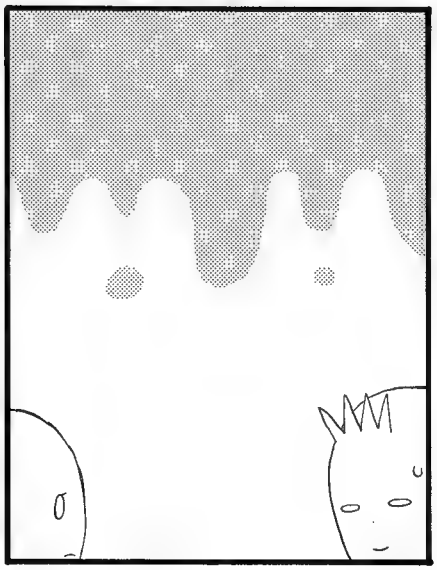

HUH...? WELL... I...
YOU DO LIKE HER, RIGHT?
I HEARD THAT YOU GOT MARRIED WHILE DRUNK, BUT...

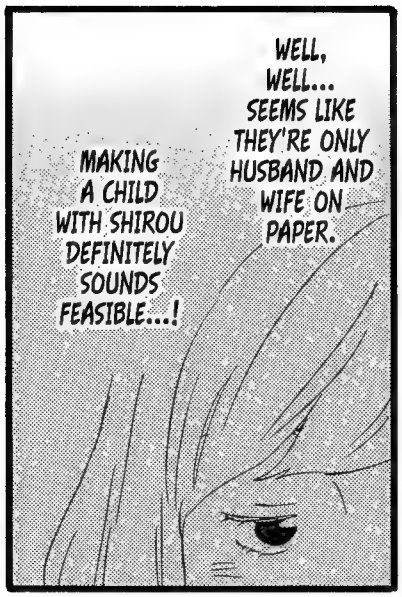

I GUESS...
...YOU ALWAYS ENJOYED FLIRTING AND SNUGGLING.
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY OKAY WITH SOMEONE LIKE HER?
HMM...
RISE & SHINE! CHIRP!
HAPPY! HAPPY! HAPPY!

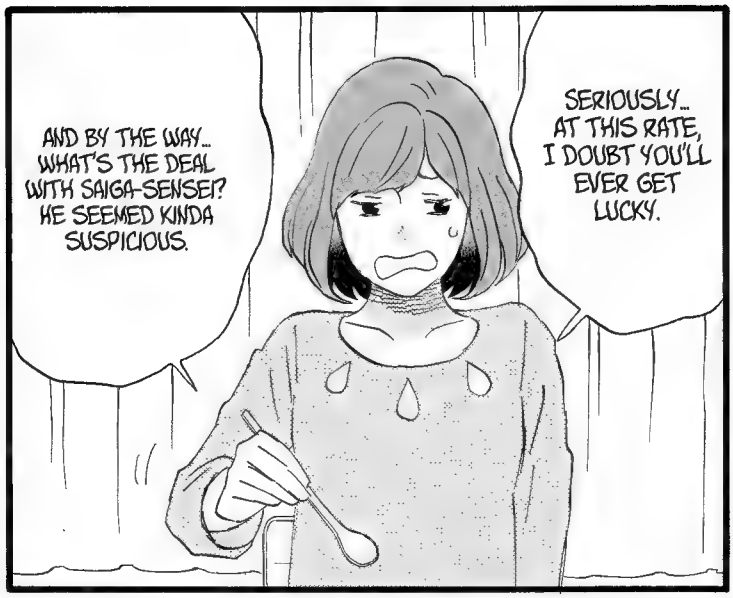
...
IT'S NOT ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION, BUT THAT SHE WON'T LET YOU DO IT WITH HER?

...
WELL, I DON'T DISLIKE MY CURRENT SITUATION...
...COULD IT BE THAT...
Mumble
Mumble

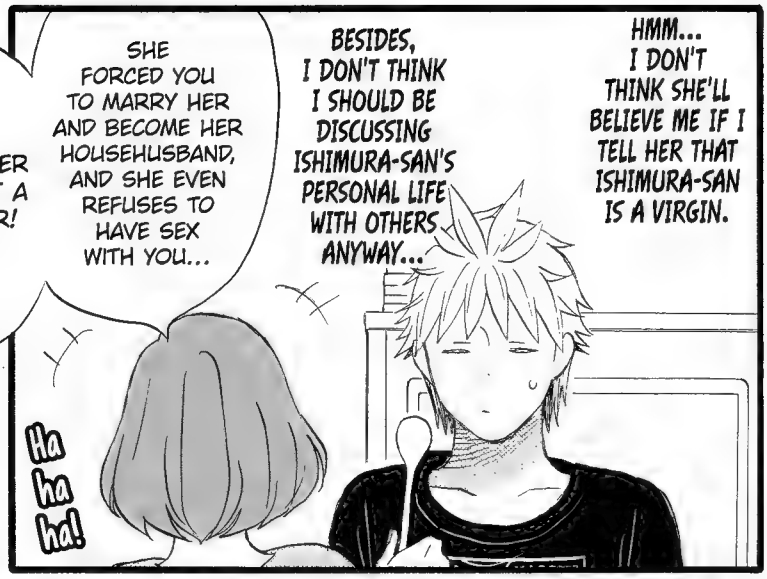

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT JUST GETTING CARRIED AWAY BY YOUR FANTASIES?
WHOA...! SERIOUSLY?!
We simply haven't found the right time...
N-NO, SHE'S FINE WITH IT...




WELL, WELL... SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE ONLY HUSBAND AND WIFE ON PAPER.
MAKING A CHILD WITH SHIROU DEFINITELY SOUNDS FEASIBLE...!


AND BY THE WAY... WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH SAIGA-SENSEI? HE SEEMED KINDA SUSPICIOUS.
SERIOUSLY... AT THIS RATE, I DOUBT YOU'LL EVER GET LUCKY.

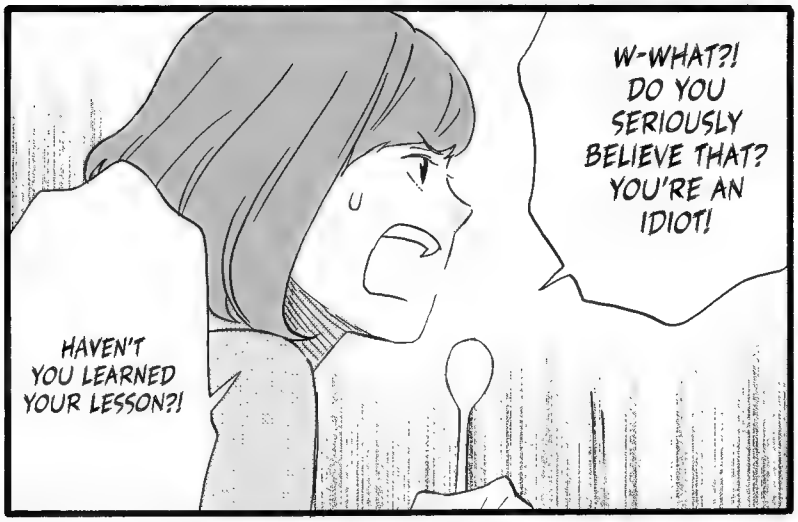
UGH... I'M AWARE OF THAT, AND IT BOTHERS ME...
YOU'RE NOT HER HUSBAND, BUT A HOUSEKEEPER!


SHE FORCED YOU TO MARRY HER AND BECOME HER HOUSEHUSBAND, AND SHE EVEN REFUSES TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU...
BESIDES, I DON'T THINK I SHOULD BE DISCUSSING ISHIMURA-SAN'S PERSONAL LIFE WITH OTHERS ANYWAY...
HMM... I DON'T THINK SHE'LL BELIEVE ME IF I TELL HER THAT ISHIMURA-SAN IS A VIRGIN.
Ha ha ha!

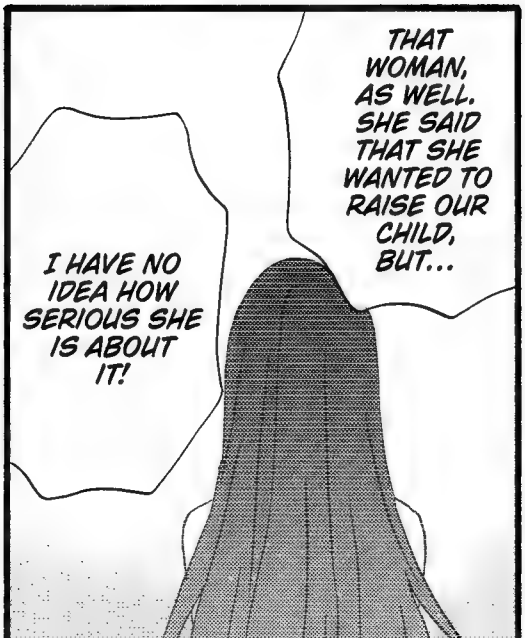
FORGET ABOUT THAT CLASS. RIGHT NOW, I BET SHE'S HAVING FUN WITH ANOTHER MAN...
Oh, dear...

ISHIMURA-SAN DOESN'T LIE.

OHH... ABOUT THAT...
I DON'T THINK I HAVE TO WORRY.
HUH? WHY NOT?


W-WHAT?! DO YOU SERIOUSLY BELIEVE THAT? YOU'RE AN IDIOT!
HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED YOUR LESSON?!

RATHER THAN NOT LYING, IT'S MORE LIKE SHE CAN'T?

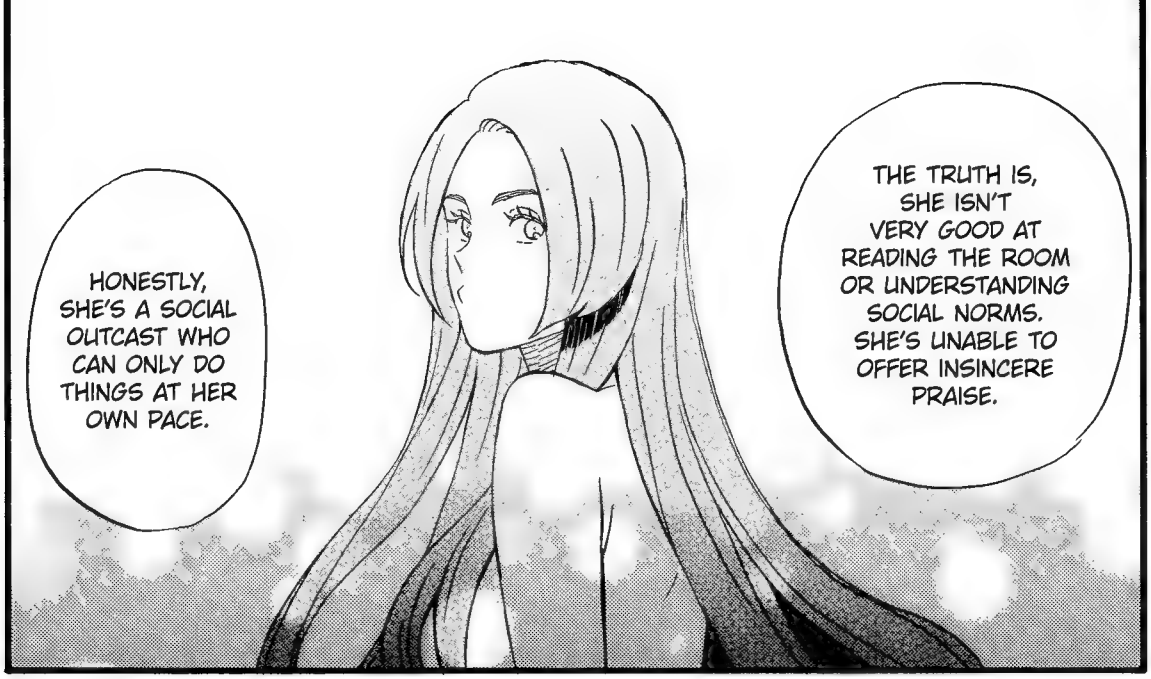

THAT WOMAN, AS WELL. SHE SAID THAT SHE WANTED TO RAISE OUR CHILD, BUT...
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW SERIOUS SHE IS ABOUT IT!

I'M AMAZED THAT YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED ANYTHING SINCE YOUR ADORABLE (THOUGH A LITTLE SELFISH) GIRLFRIEND DUMPED YOU FOR GETTING LAID OFF.
And oh so humble...
YOU'RE DUMBER THAN I THOUGHT!

IF I LEAVE OUR BABY HERE...
I'M SURE SHE'LL REALIZE WHAT A NUISANCE IT IS AND ABANDON THEM IN NO TIME!

SHE DEFINITELY WON'T DO THAT.

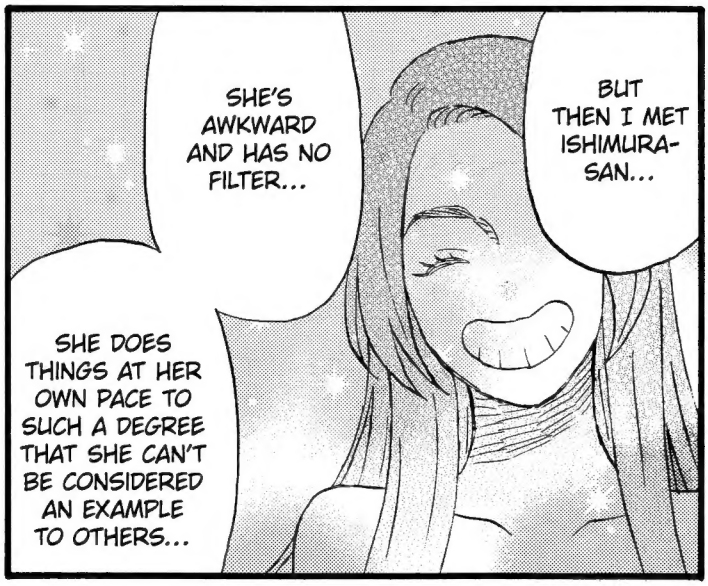
HUH...?
I'M NOT SURE IF IT'S DUE TO HER BELIEFS OR PERHAPS A FLAW IN HER PERSONALITY, BUT...
TO BEGIN WITH, SHE WOULDN'T PROMISE TO RAISE THE CHILD IF SHE COULDN'T DO SO.
IN THE EYES OF OTHERS, I GUESS SHE MAY SEEM SERIOUS AND HONEST, BUT...
THE FACT IS, SHE'S SIMPLY UNABLE TO LIE.
RISE & SHINE! CHIRP!
HAPPY!


HONESTLY, SHE'S A SOCIAL OUTCAST WHO CAN ONLY DO THINGS AT HER OWN PACE.
THE TRUTH IS, SHE ISN'T VERY GOOD AT READING THE ROOM OR UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL NORMS. SHE'S UNABLE TO OFFER INSINCERE PRAISE.

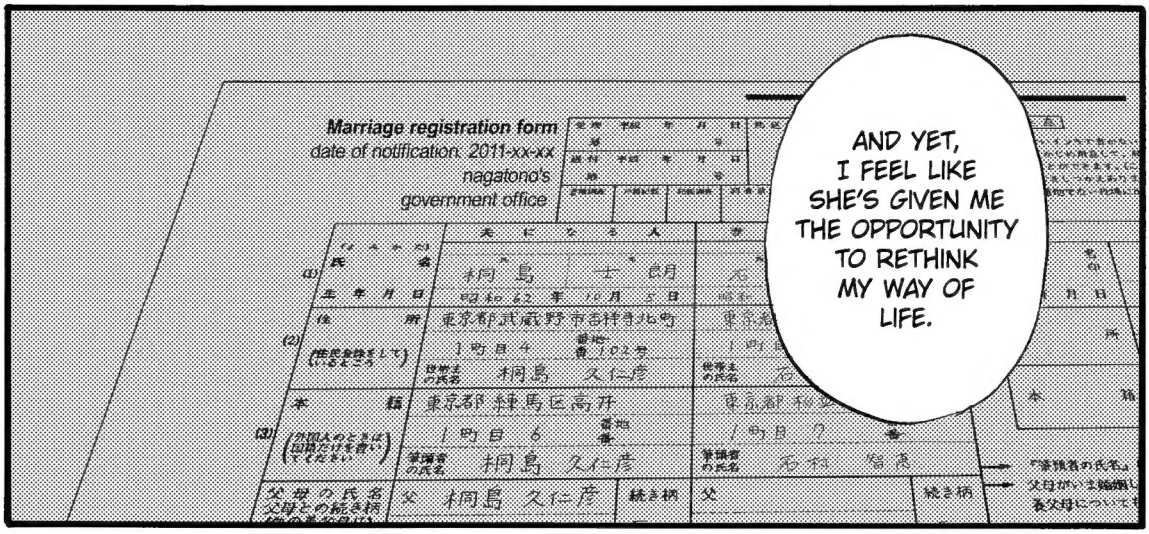
"HOW CAN I BECOME A GOOD WIFE?" SHE'S CURRENTLY THINKING ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT.
AND YET, SHE CHOSE TO DO HER BEST TO OVERCOME HER FLAWS AND LIVE WITH ME.

SHE KNOWS THAT SHE ISN'T SUITED TO BECOME INTIMATE WITH OTHER PEOPLE AND SPEND TIME WITH THEM.
EVEN SO, SHE'S AWARE THAT BEING LIKE THAT ISN'T A GOOD THING.

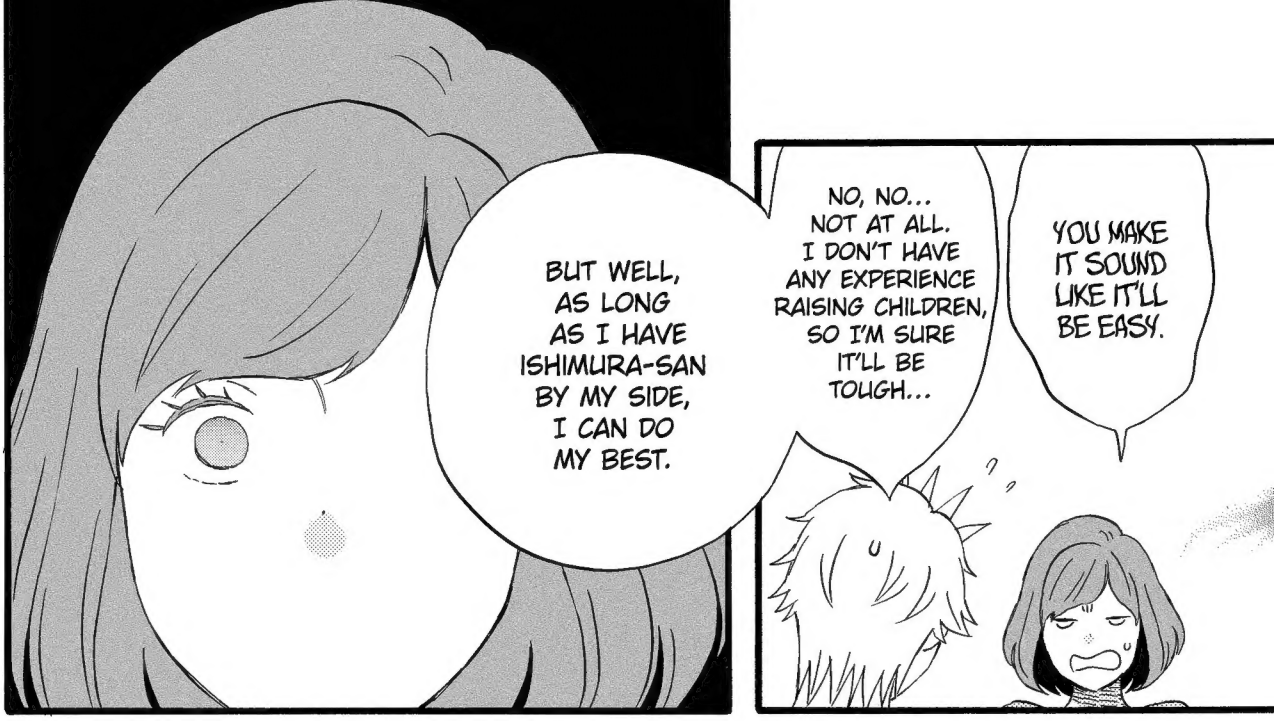
WHICH IS WHY I'VE BEEN WRACKING MY BRAINS ABOUT HOW I CAN BECOME A GOOD HUSBAND. LATELY I'VE BEEN LIVING BY MAKING MISTAKES AND LEARNING FROM THEM.

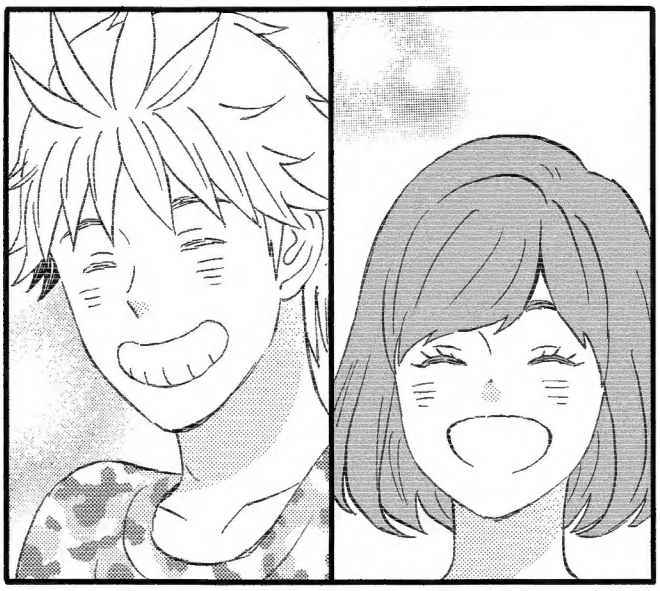

SHE'S AWKWARD AND HAS NO FILTER...
BUT THEN I MET ISHIMURA-SAN...
SHE DOES THINGS AT HER OWN PACE TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT SHE CAN'T BE CONSIDERED AN EXAMPLE TO OTHERS...

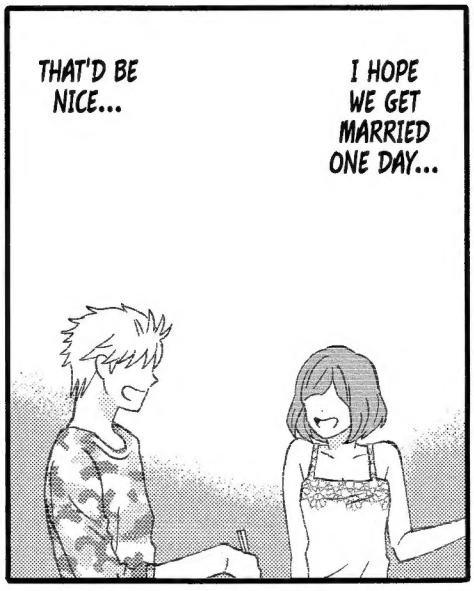
UP UNTIL NOW, I FEEL LIKE I HAD BEEN LAZILY LIVING MY LIFE...

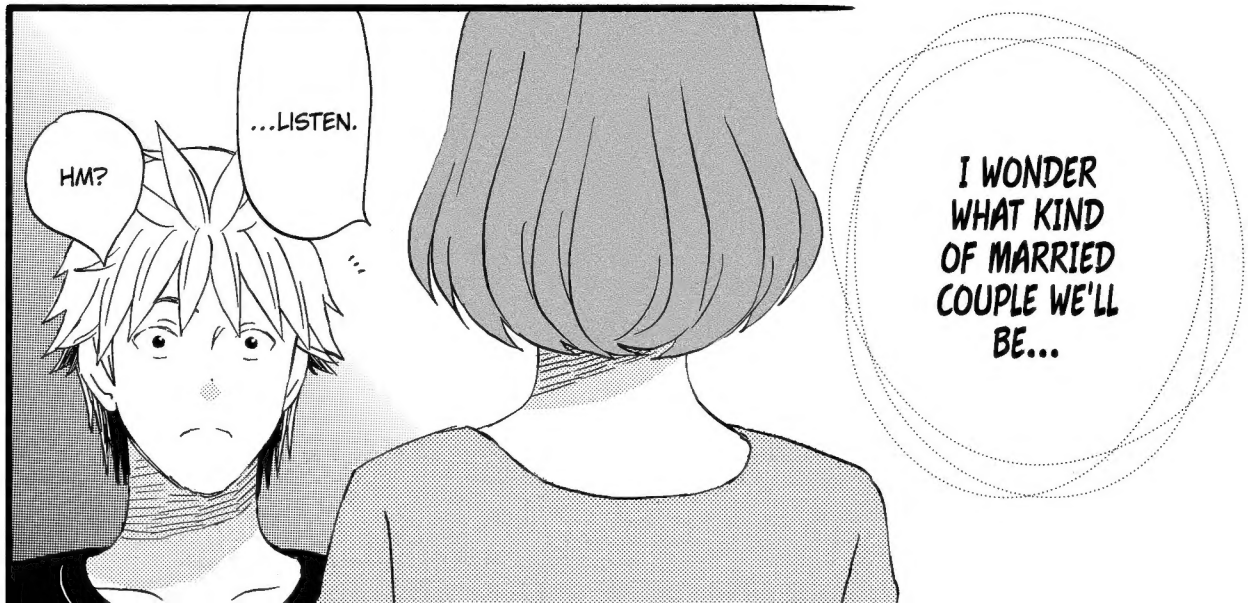

Marriage registration form
date of notification: 2011-xx-xx
nagatono's
government office
AND YET, I FEEL LIKE SHE'S GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO RETHINK MY WAY OF LIFE.

THE TWO OF US WILL MAKE SURE TO RAISE THE KID PROPERLY.
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.
I BELIEVE THAT A CHILD RAISED UNDER ISHIMURA-SAN'S SUPERVISION WILL GROW UP TO BE A STRONG PERSON.


BUT WELL, AS LONG AS I HAVE ISHIMURA-SAN BY MY SIDE, I CAN DO MY BEST.
NO, NO... NOT AT ALL. I DON'T HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE RAISING CHILDREN, SO I'M SURE IT'LL BE TOUGH...
YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE IT'LL BE EASY.




THAT'D BE NICE...
I HOPE WE GET MARRIED ONE DAY...


HM?
...LISTEN.
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF MARRIED COUPLE WE'LL BE...

THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU, SHIROU...

WHUH?!

THE PREGNANCY WAS A LIE?!!

H-HMM... SHE'S A CRAZY WOMAN, ALL RIGHT. I'M SURE YOU HAD A DIFFICULT TIME WHEN YOU WERE DATING.

Well...

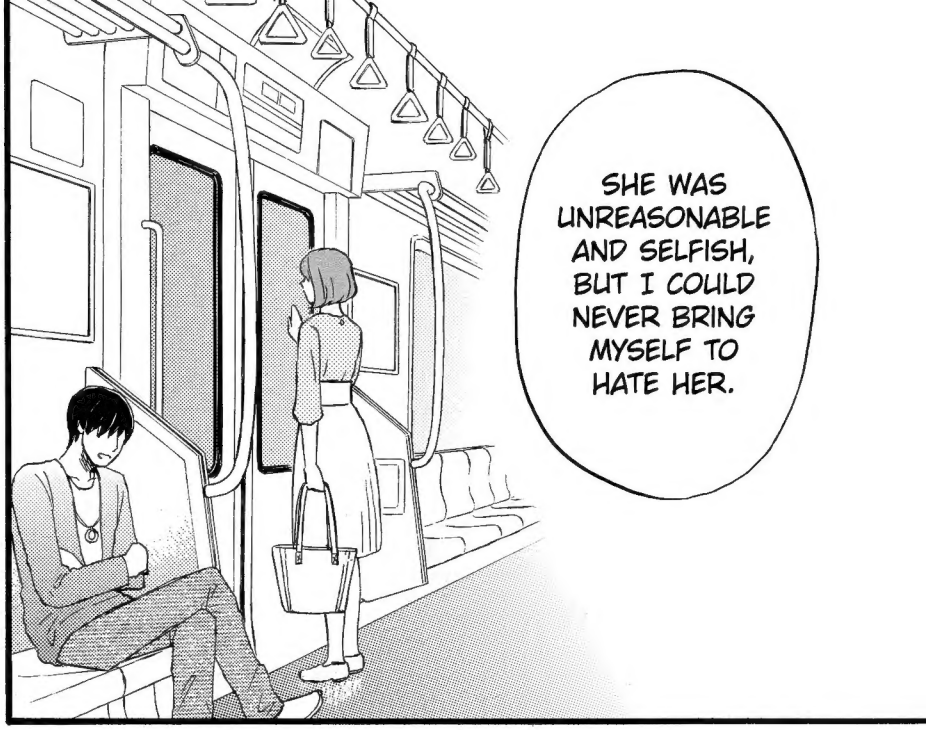
HA HA HA...

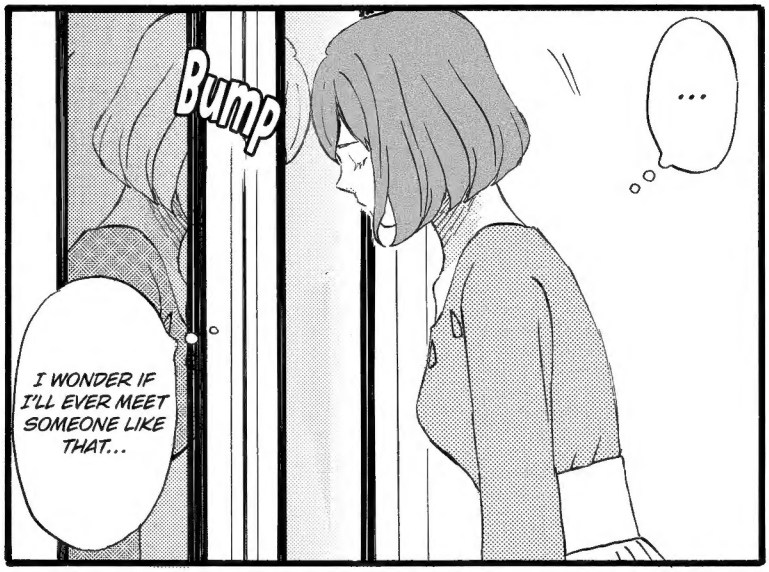
SERIOUSLY?

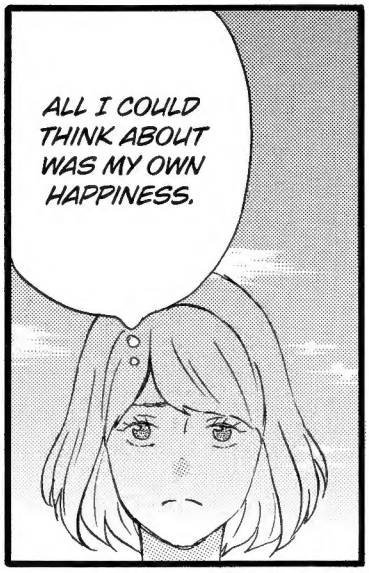
SERIOUSLY.

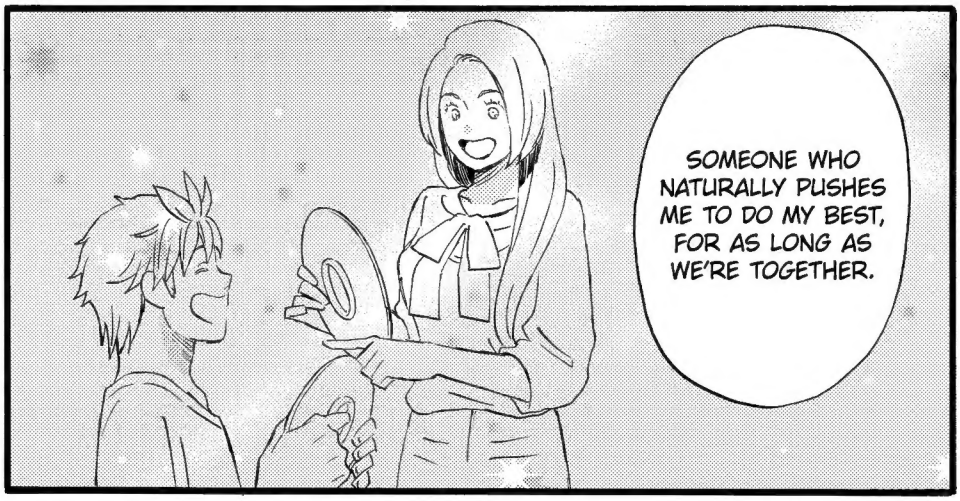
ONCE AGAIN... I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS...

EVEN IF SHIROU HADN'T LOST HIS JOB, I DON'T THINK WE COULD'VE BECOME THAT KIND OF MARRIED COUPLE.


SHE WAS UNREASONABLE AND SELFISH, BUT I COULD NEVER BRING MYSELF TO HATE HER.


Bump
...
I WONDER IF I'LL EVER MEET SOMEONE LIKE THAT...


ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS MY OWN HAPPINESS.


SOMEONE WHO NATURALLY PUSHES ME TO DO MY BEST, FOR AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER.